

Docket No.: 57454-986

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of | : | Customer Number: 20277 |
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| Kousuke OBAYASHI, et al. | : | Confirmation Number: |
| | : | |
| Serial No.: | : | Group Art Unit: |
| | : | |
| Filed: November 05, 2003 | : | Examiner: Unknown |
| | : | |
| For: | | SUPPORT STRUCTURE CARRYING THRUST LOAD OF TRANSMISSION, METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THEREOF AND THRUST NEEDLE ROLLER BEARING |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop IDS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

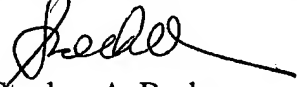
The relevance of Japanese Patent Laying-Open No. 2002-70872 is discussed in the present specification.

Serial No.:

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY


Stephen A. Becker
Registration No. 26,527

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
(202) 756-8000 SAB:tlb
Facsimile: (202) 756-8087
Date: November 5, 2003

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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION | | ATTY. DOCKET NO. 57454-986 | | SERIAL NO. | |
| | | APPLICANT Kousuke OBAYASHI, et al. | | | |
| (PTO-1449) | | FILING DATE November 05, 2003 | | GROUP | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
| EXAMINER'S INITIALS | CITE NO. | Document Number Number-Kind Code ₂ (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
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| | | JP P2002-70872A | 03/08/2002 | NSK LTD | |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.